



Council Approves Budget For 1953, Asks \$190,539 From PHA Pending Sale

About a dozen citizens witnessed city council approval of the 1953 budget, calling for an expenditure of \$259,391. Mayor Frank Lastner was authorized to negotiate with Public Housing Administration for a "payment in lieu of taxes" of \$190,539. (If the expected sale of homes to Greenbelt Veteran Housing Corporation is completed by January 1, the federal government's payment will be made only for those apartments it will continue to operate. GVH will not have any "control" over the budget.)

The tax rate for real property was established at \$3.5141 per \$100 assessed valuation, and the personal property tax on local businesses continues to be \$1 per \$100 evaluation.

No cuts or additions to the budget were made during the hearing. Although this year's figure exceeds both last year's \$247,659 and the 1951 total of \$226,556, much of the increase is due to added costs from acquiring ownership of additional property by dedication from the federal government. Revenue and costs of the water system are not included, since the utility's ownership is still in doubt. Figures for the main departments are - legislative and executive, \$22,807; public safety, \$42,115; roadways and highway lighting, \$28,628; sanitation and waste removal, \$38,307; recreation, \$64,381 (this includes Community building, municipal parks, library, and organized recreation).

Add Taxes?

One citizen urged the council to raise the personal property tax. He stated that the \$2,334 derived from Greenbelt Consumer Services does not pay for the services the city provides that business. Businesses as well as residents should bear the burden of taxes, he added. In reply, Mayor Lastner declared that raising the tax would be unfair to GCS since other communities have lower tax rates. Also, he stated, future businesses in Greenbelt would be driven away by the burden of taxation. He cited instances of small industries making inquiry about locating on Greenbelt property; only the diffidence of PHA has prevented many of them from establishing themselves here.

County Services

Duplications of county services were protested by many spectators. Police protection, library, health service, recreation were termed services the community should be getting from the county in return for taxes paid to the county. The swimming pool, the lake recreation area, and even the fireworks display are services Greenbelt pays for, from which citizens of the entire county derive benefit. The council was urged to press for better services by the county so that Greenbelt's services may be less costly, rather than diminished.

Another effort to raise the salary of the treasurer was defeated by a tie vote. (Councilman Steve Comings has resigned.) Lastner first proposed a \$259 raise, as suggested by City Manager Charles McDonald. (McDonald was absent due to illness.) There was no second to his motion. Councilman Ben Goldfaden moved for a \$100 increase to bring the salary even with the chief of public safety. Goldfaden maintained that the head of public safety acts as city-manager in McDonald's absence and it would not be proper to have his salary lower than a subordinate's. The motion was defeated. Both the treasurer's and police chief's salaries are at the top of the grade and can only be raised by legislation.

Utility Sale

Mayor Lastner disclosed that means of stopping the sale of the electric utility to PEPCO by PHA are being investigated by the city solicitor. An injunction may be

'Barbecue' Smith New Councilman; Taxes His Meat

James Smith, 4-H Southway, was elected to the city council last Monday to replace Steve Comings who resigned after moving from Greenbelt. Smith is a career employee with the Navy Department and operates a new and used car business on the Baltimore Boulevard.



SMITH

He has two children, both graduates of the University of Maryland. His son is now a Naval Air Cadet in Pensacola, Florida. One of the "original settlers" in Greenbelt, moving here in 1937, Smith has been active in Boy Scout work the Citizens' Association, and is now on the board of the Lions Club. He ran for council in two earlier elections; one of them had 19 candidates!

Smith is particularly interested in the tax structure in Greenbelt and hopes to devote much of his time to investigating Greenbelt tax problems as compared to other communities in the county. Terming himself a "free enterprise" man, Smith states that Greenbelt has great promise for future development. Although not against any group working together in business, he feels that all individuals should be given freedom of opportunity. "We should examine review, and perhaps analyze what is going on around us tax-wise," he declared. Smith spent four years in the county tax department while in North Carolina.

Post Office Hours

New post office hours are announced by Thomas R. Freeman, postmaster. They are:

Friday, December 19, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, December 20, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, December 21, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday, December 22, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday, December 23, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday, December 24, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Christmas cards, unsealed, may be mailed for two cents, but must not contain writing, according to the postmaster.

used; the council feels that the sale to PEPCO violates the provisions of Public Law 65, which defines the method of disposal of Greenbelt including the utilities.

The last part of the meeting was devoted to the election of an additional council member to replace Steve Comings, who resigned this week. James Smith, 4-H Southway, was elected on the sixth ballot; a majority was needed to elect. Other names submitted for nomination were: Mrs. O. Zoellner, Earl Thomas, Edgar Swisher, and Allen Morrison.

Notice

The Greenbelt Cooperator will change its publication date from Thursday to Wednesday for the next two weeks. All news items for the Wednesday, December 24 issue and for the Wednesday, December 31 issue must be in the Cooperator office at 14 Parkway by 10 p.m. MONDAY preceding the dates of publications.

WHAT GOES ON

Thursday, Dec. 18 - Cooperator Staff meeting; home of Mrs. Ira Solet, 11-Q Ridge.
Sunday, Dec. 21 3 p.m., St. Hugh's School Christmas program; 2-5 p.m., American Legion children's party; 5 and 7:30 p.m., Community Church Christmas pageant.
Monday, Dec. 22 - Santa Claus is coming to town!
Tuesday, Dec. 24 - Boy Scout Christmas party.
December 24 to January 5 - Library closed.

GCS Board Entertains At Party For Employees

Four employees of Greenbelt Consumer Services with ten years of service were honored at a gala Christmas party given by the board of directors for employees at the American Legion Home on Southway last Sunday night.

Addie Sowell, an office employee, and Jerry Goodin, of the custodial department, received gifts presented by Walter Bierwagen, GCS president. Dan Livingston, Takoma meat manager, and Paul Milaski, of the shoe repair department, were not present to receive their gifts.

The employees danced to the music of Van Camp in an atmosphere of candlelight and Christmas decorations. A buffet with punch and coffee was provided by George Davidsen's committee.

Bierwagen, speaking for management and the board, thanked the employees for their faithful and loyal service, and in return was told of the employees' appreciation of the board's efforts in their behalf.

Attendance at the annual affair was the largest ever, as the number of employees was increased since the addition of the Takoma stores. The party was such a success that some employees voiced the opinion that a holiday Monday would have been in order.

For Ten Years Of Co-op Service



Presented awards for ten years' service at Sunday night's Christmas party for GCS employees were Addie Sowell and Jerry Goodin, shown above with Board President Walter Bierwagen. Not present at the ceremony were ten-year employees Paul Milaski and Dan Livingston. GCS employees are honored annually by the board of directors at the Christmas season.

Rent Raise Assured, GVHC Members Kill 90% Clause, O K Land Purchase

By Harry M. Zubkoff

A quorum showed up at the membership meeting last night promptly at 8:30 p.m., an unprecedented occurrence in Greenbelt. The meeting moved along rapidly, and the last item of business was concluded shortly after 10:30.

President Mike Salzman, in his opening address, allayed the fears of members with regard to the rent situation, assuring them that there was no danger of any financial loss to the corporation or to members insofar as subsidizing unsold units is concerned. Yesterday afternoon, he announced, the Office of Rent Stabilization had signed a rent raise for Greenbelt which would be sufficient to carry all the unsold units without loss to the corporation.

Rent Raise For All

Furthermore, during the first year of operation, all residents—buyers and non-buyers alike—will be paying monthly charges in accordance with the maximum rent schedules set up by ORS, rather than the monthly payments originally scheduled by GVHC. This action is being taken because PHA has granted a moratorium on the principal payment for the first year, which the corporation is passing along to the members. The rent increases will range from about 20 to 30% and will be approximately 95% of the figure which GVHC scheduled for monthly payments. (PHA is expected to post the new rent schedules in the next few days.)

Changeover Ready

Meanwhile, now that the last hurdle has been cleared, Salzman reported that the corporation is geared to take over on January 1 as planned. Delivery of fuel oil is assured, and arrangements have been made to purchase materials and supplies from PHA at costs not to exceed the costs to the government. The general manager and the maintenance staff have been hired to start January 1. Negotiations are underway to buy insurance; a firm of accountants is preparing to move in to audit the books and to set up a book-keeping system.

No Loyalty Oaths

A letter from John Taylor Egan, Commissioner of Public Housing, informed the corporation that the government was withdrawing its demand to insert a loyalty clause in the contract. However, the board adopted a policy which would prohibit the corporation from accepting as members or residents anyone accused of subversive activities by a law enforcement agency. This board action met with membership approval, although no formal membership action was required, or taken.

Salzman took the city council to task with regard to the utilities. He accused the council of displaying a marked reluctance to cooperate with GVHC, and of a general apathy with regard to the entire sale. They had no faith, he said in effect, in the eventual consummation of the sale, and consequently made little effort to help, although there was much that they could have done. (The Cooperator next week will carry a story of the utilities with particular regard to the city council.) He concluded his address by pointing out that many difficult problems lay ahead, and appealed to members to face them and solve them.

Seventy Percent Sold

So far 1126 units have been sold. Treasurer Tom Ritchie reported, 372 of which were old Greenbelt houses and 754 defense houses. This represents a total dollar value of \$4,283,600. Already 995 down payments have been received, amounting to \$483,756. Unsold are still 449 units, representing a dollar value of \$1,890,350. In other words, just under 70% of the dollar value has been sold. Resident buyers outnumber non-residents by 2 to 1, and about 65% of the total are veterans. The 1126 sold units represent about 71.5% of the total number of units for sale. (PHA

See HOUSING, Page 2

GREENBELT COOPERATOR

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

OUR PURPOSE:

1. To report Greenbelt news fully, fairly and accurately.
2. To serve the best interests of the cooperative movement.

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Ralph G. Miller, phone 2617, News Editor

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Vol. 17

Thursday, December 18, 1952

No. 18

COMMUNITY CHURCH

PROTESTANT

Eric T. Braund, Minister

Thursday, December 18 - 7:30, Boy Scout Charter Night, social hall.

Friday, December 19 - 7 p.m., Cub Scout Christmas party, social hall.

Saturday, December 20 - 7:30, Full rehearsal of Christmas Pageant. 8:30, Discussion Group Christmas party at Virginia Horton's, University Park. Husbands invited.

Sunday, Dec. 21 - Church School 9, 10, and 11 a.m. - Nursery through Adult, Morning Worship, 9 and 11: Sacrament of Baptism. Third in series of Advent or Christmas sermons by Mr. Braund, "Good News - Emmanuel!" At 9, Cloister and St. Cecilia Choirs; at 11, Adult Choir will sing "And the glory" by Handel. 5 and 7:30 p.m., Annual Christmas Pageant.

Tuesday, December 23 - 7 p.m., Junior Department Christmas party, social hall.

Wednesday, December 24 - 11 p.m. - Third Annual Christmas Eve Holy Communion. Music by Adult Choir and Cloister Choir.

Thursday, December 25 - 11 a.m., Christmas day carols and communion.

Friday, December 26 - 8:30 p.m., Christmas holiday party by and for the young people.

GREENBELT

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, Dec. 21 - 9:45 a.m., Sunday School and Adult Bible Class. 11 a.m., Divine Service. Sermon: John 1:23, "Voice in the Wilderness." 7 p.m., Children's Christmas service.

Wednesday, Dec. 24 - 11 p.m., Christmas Eve candlelight service. Thursday, Dec. 25 - 11 a.m., Christmas morning service.

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HOUSING from page 1

requirements called for 3/4, or 1053, of the units to be sold.)

Ritchie cautioned members to be sure to sign and return to PHA the registration certificates renewing leases on the new rent schedule, which PHA will be sending out to all residents in the near future.

An interesting disclosure was the information that GVHC hopes to be able to take full title to the refrigerators and ranges at the end of the first year of operation, after which members will be able to trade them in or new ones or not, as they wish. While this is not certain, it will be done within two years at the most.

Percentage Changed

A motion was adopted, at the board's recommendation, to abolish the 90% dollar limitation which the membership had imposed at a previous meeting. This limitation would have prevented the consummation of the sale until 90% of the dollar valuation of the total housing property sold. It was imposed, said Salzman, at a time when all the factors were unknown, and was intended to safeguard the membership from taking an undue risk. Now, however, since these unknown factors have been resolved, the board recommended that the sale be consummated subject only to the limitation that the board determine to its satisfaction that the corporation would have enough working capital to proceed. An amendment by board member Bernard Bordenet further required that this determination be made by a 2/3 majority of the board, or 6 of the 9 board members, instead of the usual majority of 5.

Development Plan

Salzman reported that the corporation had entered into an agreement with the People's Development Corporation, which had been approved by PHA, to purchase all 800 acres of undeveloped land. This will be done at no liability whatsoever to the corporation or its members, a requirement which the membership had laid down at a previous meeting. Under the terms of this agreement, PDC will lend GVHC \$150,000 for the down payment on the undeveloped land. In return, PDC required that in 1953 a master plan be developed for the use of the land, and that every effort be made to start a housing project as soon as possible. As a matter of fact, the Cooperative Housing Federation has already started to develop such a master plan, and will undertake to have it approved by the proper zoning authorities. A subsidiary corporation will be organized by GVHC to take title to the land and to develop it. This corporation will start soliciting members in the very near future, since it is hoped that ground can be broken in the Spring. GVHC members will be given preference in participating in the purchase and development of the vacant land. The loan from PDC must be repaid in 5 years, and the term of the mortgage is for fifteen years. The membership formally authorized the board to proceed with these plans.

Joseph Fitzmaurice was elected to fill a vacancy of the board of directors.

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MOWATT MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, December 21 - 10 a.m. Combined Sunday School and Church Services with special Christmas program at North End School. 7 p.m. Kiddies' Christmas treat with visit by Santa Claus at chapel on Woodland Way.

Special Christmas Program

Christmas Carol, "Away in the Manger" - Kindergarten dept. Pantomime, "The First Christmas Night" - Primary dept. Choric reading, "The Christmas Story" - Junior dept. Dramatic presentation, "The Story and the Star."

Special music: "Gesu Bambino" - Senior Choir. "O Come, O Come, Emanuel" - Senior Choir. "God Bless Ye Merry Gentlemen" - Junior Choir.

ST. HUGH'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ember Days: Friday and Saturday, December 19 and 20 - a day of fast and abstinence for all Catholics.

Saturday: Confessions 3 to 5:30 for children and 7 to 9:30 in the evening for adults.

Sunday: Masses: 7:30, 8:30, 9:30 and 11 a.m. Nursery care for preschool children during the 11 a.m. Mass. Holy Communion Sunday for children of the Parish.

Baptisms: 1 p.m. Anyone wishing to have a baby baptized should notify Father Dowgiallo beforehand.

Tuesday: Novena Services - 8 p.m. Confessions will be heard after the Novena, in preparation for the Christmas devotions.

Confessions: Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 5:30 p.m. and from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Christmas Eve.

Midnight Mass: A High Mass will be celebrated at midnight. The Church will open at 11:30 p.m. There will be singing of carols and musical selections preceding the Mass at midnight. This Mass is for adults only.

Christmas Day: Masses: 7:30, 8:30 and 11 a.m. The 9:30 Mass is especially for children, when they will sing their special Christmas hymns.

Christmas Vacation: St. Hugh's School will close Monday afternoon, December 22. Pupils will return to school on Monday morning, January 5.

HEBREW SERVICES

Services will be held in the social room of the Greenbelt Center School Friday evening at 8 p.m. This is the last day of Chanukah. Candlelighting time, 4:23 p.m.

PROGRAM

All members of the Senior and Intermediate Greenbelt bands are requested to be at the Center School on Monday, December 22, not later than 5:15 p.m., dressed in warm clothing.

SOS BAND

A Christmas program, presented by all pupils of St. Hugh's Catholic School, will be held on Sunday, December 21 at 3 p.m. All parishioners as well as friends of the pupils will be very welcome.

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Community Church To Present Pageant Twice On Sunday

Or Sunday afternoon Community Church will present its annual Christmas Pageant. The general public is invited. There will be two identical presentations, one at 5 p.m. and the other at 7:30 p.m., under the direction of Mrs. Lillian Mitchell, with Mrs. Elizabeth Love as art director.

Participants in the pageant have been selected from the various age groups in the Church School, as well as the three children's choirs.

It's C-C-Cold!

A minimum temperature of 14 degrees F. was recorded on Monday, December 15, at the U. S. Weather Bureau Cooperative Weather Station on Ridge Road in Greenbelt. This is the lowest temperature thus far this winter, but colder weather is probable before the winter ends, according to William H. Klein, station observer.

Band, City Officers, Small Fry To Greet Santa Next Monday

Santa Claus is coming to town Monday, December 22, to greet Greenbelt children. He will arrive at about 5:30 p.m. His route in the city will be as follows:
Up Crescent and stop at Crescent and Ridge,

Stop at 11 and 14 Ridge,
Stop at 17 and 18 Ridge,
Stop at Gardenway and Ridge
Stop at Eastway and Ridge
Stop at Northway and Ridge
Stop at Plateau and Ridge
Stop at Laurel Hill and Ridge,
then go up to 15 and 14 Laurel
Stop at top Research and Ridge
Stop at bottom of Laurel and Hillside.

The Greenbelt band will greet him and escort him to the Center, where City officials and the children can meet him and share in the carol singing.

At the end of his tour around town, Santa Claus will help in lighting the Christmas tree at the Center and give out candy to the children.

Local Post Office Business Booming

These are hectic days at the Greenbelt Post Office, according to Postmaster Thomas Freeman.

Last Monday the post office truck picked up 90 bags of mail at Berwyn; the usual haul is 4 bags! The railway mail clerks didn't have time to unload all the bags at Berwyn before the train pulled out, so the Greenbelt men were picking up mail bags pushed off the train along the right-of-way from Berwyn to Beltsville.

Over an eight-day period the Greenbelt post office sold over 170,000 two-cent stamps and 90,000 three's, Mr. Freeman reported.

As of yesterday, the normal staff of 18 had been expanded to forty, with mail deliveries being made "all day" by twelve carriers instead of the usual three.

"Wrap your packages securely" is the post office's reminder.

Legion Needs More Books For Veterans in Hospitals

You still have a few days to get some of your surplus books together for The American Legion book drive for veterans in the hospital. The pocket-book type is preferred, but they will also accept the regular "book-of-the-month" type. The Legion can also use a few good toys. Contributions may be left at the police station or the Legion; or call the chairman of the drive, "Pop" Bell, at 4486. Monday of the coming week is the deadline, so please get busy at once.

Annual Christmas Party

The local American Legion, under the command of Clarence Enders, is making plans for the annual party for Legion members' children at the Home this coming Sunday from 2 till 5 p.m. This affair is looked forward to by many of the children and a swell time is promised all. You can call the Legion any evening for more particulars.

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December 18, 1952

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Hi folks, this is Rae Algaze pinch-hitting for Dotty McGee, who at present is busily engaged in the process of moving. Their new address is 7-D Hillside.

Was there ever a busier week this year! The joint celebrations of Chanukah-and-Christmas offer challenges to us almost daily, but there is deep satisfaction to be derived once the task of importance is accomplished. However, holiday season or not, life goes on bringing its usual share of more happiness for some, less for others. Let's start with the joyful news first:

Announcement is made of the marriage of Clayton S. McCarl, son of Dr. and Mrs. J. W. McCarl, to Miss Jane Drury Mooney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard S. Mooney, of University Park, on November 26. The ceremony was held at St. Andrew's Church in College Park. A reception followed at the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority house. The bride and groom were both graduated from the University of Maryland last June. Jane is teaching first grade at College Park, and Clayton is attending the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery of the University of Maryland. The couple is residing in an apartment in University City.

Miss Delpha W. Daniels, daughter of Mrs. Nellie Daniels, 24-C Crescent, was married on December 16 to Gordon E. Benson of Washington, D. C. Reverend Eric T. Braund performed the ceremony which was held at the Greenbelt Community Church. A reception took place at the home of the bride's mother. The couple will live in Greenbelt after a short honeymoon in Florida.

Mrs. Rose Rosen of New York received the supreme Chanukah gift when her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Rosen of 9-E Ridge, became the parents of an 8 lb. 6 oz. daughter, Martha Anne, who was born on December 12. Her arrival was also a birthday present for her daddy who celebrated his birthday December 16. Grandpa Rosen is visiting here too, and helped entertain his grandson while waiting for his mother and baby sister to return from Prince George's General Hospital.

Christmas this year will also be merrier for the family of Eva and Jim Daly who increased their family to five with the birth of their daughter, Sheila Sue, on December 8. The Dalys also have two

sons, aged 7 and 2.

Mrs. S. W. Manley has returned to her family in Squantum, Massachusetts, after spending several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Rielley who recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

Friends of Mrs. Rebecca Epter, 54-F Ridge, were deeply grieved to learn of the death of her son, Jerome, on December 3. He died unexpectedly while undergoing treatment at Perry Point Hospital in Baltimore. Jerome had spent three years overseas during World War II as a sergeant in the Army Air Corps. He was buried in Arlington Cemetery on December 8 with full military honors. We or Greenbelt take this means of expressing our deepest condolences to Mrs. Epter.

Mrs. Lee Fink is convalescing at home after undergoing surgery at Cheverly Hospital last week. Best wishes for a speedy recovery, Lee.

Mrs. Harry B. McNeel, 14-S Hillside, is coming along nicely after a bout with pneumonia for which she was hospitalized recently. Her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Andrusic, have moved from 13-T Ridge to their new home, 8503 Potomac Ave., Berwyn. Their new phone number is TOW-9-6362.

An unfortunate accident occurred to Henry C. Hart, 13-B Laurel Hill, while he was building his family a new home in Chalk Point, Maryland. Mr. Hart spent several days at Arunder General Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hensel left hurriedly for Pittsburgh this Tuesday to attend the bedside of Mrs. Hensel's mother, who is critically ill.

The new address of the Sam Mintz' is 1-C Westway. That of the L. M. Tierney's is 2-F Laurel Hill, phone number, 5686.

POLICE BLOTTER

Little John of 41 Ridge reported a missing wagon; still missing as to this date.

Report of a disturbing dog - Animal Rescue League secured same.

Last week clothesline was cut at 3 Ridge, while misbehaving boys were reported from 1 Northway and 32 Crescent. Disciplinary action carried out by police; also dispersed by police were disorderly children at variety store.

A driver last Thursday damaged a parked car at 26 Ridge; no one was hurt.

LIBRARY HOURS

Mrs. Marjorie Muir, librarian, announces that the Greenbelt library will be closed from December 24 until January 5. No books will fall due in this period, she said. They will either be dated for return before or after the above dates.

BUY AND USE XMAS SEALS

GCS HOLIDAY HOURS

CO-OP SUPER MARKET

Wed.—9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thurs.—Closed all Day
Fri.—10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

CO-OP DEPT. STORE

Wed.—10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thurs.—Closed all Day
Fri.—10 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

CO-OP DRUG STORE

Wed.—8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Thurs.—12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Fri.—8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

TOBACCO STORE

Wed.—8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Thurs.—Closed all Day
Fri.—8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

VALET SHOP

OPEN TILL 9:00 P.M. MONDAY & TUESDAY
Wed. 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.—Thurs. closed—Fri. 8 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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\$2.49 gal. 4 gallons \$9.96

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VALLEY FORGE - CARLINGS - BLACK LABEL

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(not iced) Cash and Carry only



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